

## NO PROBE FOR PARDON BOARD

REP. FORD'S RESOLUTION KILLED BY 77 TO 15; VAN VORCE CASE STILL UNSETTLED.

### NEW RAILROAD BILL

Provides Rate of 2 1/2 Cents For Roads Earning Over \$3,000 Per Mile—Earning That Amount 3 Cents Per Mile

BY DOUGLAS D. MARTIN.

Lansing, Mich.—(Special)—Resolutions may come and resolutions may go in the Michigan House of Representatives, but it will be full many a moon before there will be a resolution which will create as much excitement and rattle the feelings of as many statesmen as the Ford resolution, to probe the doings of the pardon board.

Before this resolution was laid to rest, Rep. Ford had openly charmed Rep. Biggerstaff with either having cold feet, or being bought off by a promise of political pap and had created a scene on the floor of the house when both Rep. Biggerstaff and Speaker Smith approached him and asked him to either explain or apologize.

The day following the verbal battle the resolution was called up and killed by an overwhelming vote of 77 to 15. Several strong speeches were made against the resolution by influential members and these coupled with the bad flavor which the unseemly affair of the previous day had left, accomplished the death of the attempt to free Merle Van Vorce from Jackson prison.

One of the surprises of the week, and it was not an agreeable one to the legislators, was the announcement by the Pere Marquette that it would withdraw its bill asking for a flat increase of one-half cent per mile in favor of a bill which will be backed by all railroads, asking for an increase of from one-half to a full cent.

The new measure has been introduced by Rep. John Stevenson, of Detroit. It provides that all roads earning \$3,000 a mile and more may charge 2 and one-half cents per mile for carrying passengers, and that roads earning less than \$3,000 a mile may charge three cents. It provides that all branches must be figured in when the earnings of the road are computed.

The bill practically means the establishment of a straight three cent fare in Michigan, the possible exceptions being the Grand Trunk and the Michigan Central.

Legislators are afraid of the bill and what the people will say about it. They point out the fact that the measure would take Michigan back beyond the Pingree days. At that time roads which earned \$3,000 per mile were limited to a charge of two cents per mile for passengers. Those earning between \$2,000 and \$3,000 were allowed to charge two and one-half cents and those earning below \$2,000 a mile were allowed to charge three cents.

#### Lieut-Governor Opposed.

Lieut-Governor Dickinson has not hesitated to condemn the proposed increase. "The railroads," declares the lieutenant-governor, "come before us with a mass of data, much of which is of a technical nature and exceedingly intricate. How can this legislature, in the brief time allotted to it, be expected to go over this data and pass intelligently on a question which involves an average increase of thirty per cent in the passenger rates of this state?"

#### New Market Measure.

Another measure which was introduced and which is certain to attract much attention, not only in the legislature, but throughout the state, was the bill which provides for extending the dairy and food departments' power and for increasing the salary of the commissioner.

Under this measure, which was introduced by Rep. Wells, the name of the dairy and food department would be changed to the "Department of Foods and Markets," and would have the power to investigate the quality and cost of food, marketing, shipping, packing and transportation methods as well as to assist consumers in the formation of co-operative purchasing leagues. The commissioner is also directed to assist and advise in the work of locating and arranging public markets and to cause the establishment of auction markets. All auctioneers shall be licensed and bonded and must sell farm produce upon a commission basis at a rate which will be fixed by the department.

The bill also provides that the com-

mission must keep in touch with the market conditions in other states, must establish buying and selling agencies where it is necessary and must publish weekly bulletins giving market quotations. The salary of the commissioner would be increased \$1,000. If passed, the measure goes into effect June 15. It carries a \$10,000 appropriation.

#### Would Favor Labor.

Rep. Noble Ashley, of Detroit, is the father of the first bit of legislation framed for the labor element. The Wayne County man has introduced a bill which would upon the approval of the voters, change the constitution in such a manner that the legislature would have the power to regulate the working hours for all persons. At the present time the legislature's power are limited to fixing the hours of labor for women and children. If the Ashley bill passes, however, the legislature can fix the working hours of every hired employee in the state.

#### To Take Up Primary Law.

A conference between republican leaders is announced for this week, the object being consideration of the pre-primary convention plan, which has been suggested to the legislature by the republican state central committee.

A large number of legislators are opposed to the suggestion which provides that before the primaries are held, delegates would gather at a state convention and pick two candidates for each place. The people would then pass upon these candidates at a primary election.

#### Holding Up Prohibition Bill.

After a conference with heads of the anti-saloon league Senator Straight decided to hold up his bill submitting the question of state wide prohibition to the electors. While the anti-saloon league had not opposed the Straight measure openly it is no secret that the heads of the league have frowned upon it. They asked Mr. Straight to hold his measure up for one month while they sounded out the sentiment of the people and the member of the upper house consented.

#### Abolish State Department.

If Senator O'Dell has his way the office of fish and game warden will be abolished and the work of the department placed in the hands of the public domain commission.

Senator O'Dell points to the fact that the legislature of 1913 abolished the office of land commissioner, placing the work under the supervision of the public domain commission, and he declares that inasmuch as this body has supreme power over state reserves and has men in practically all parts of the state, it can easily do the work which the game and fish warden's men are doing, although it will, of course, need more assistance than it can muster from its present employees.

It is not believed that Governor Ferris and his democratic friends will look on this measure with any degree of favor, inasmuch as it would shake from the tree one of the finest plums that the governor will be able to offer democratic office seekers. The fish and game warden's department has always been a choice job, because it carried with it a large number of deputyships. To wipe it out now would leave many democrats unsatisfied.

#### New Auto Tax Measure.

Rep. Newell Smith has introduced a bill similar to the Bricker-Smith bill passed two years ago and later killed by the supreme court. The new measure provides a tax of 25 cents on each horsepower and an additional tax of 25 cents for every 100 pounds of the machine. Rep. Smith thinks this is more equitable than to assess the auto owner 50 cents per horsepower, with no consideration whatever for the weight of his machine.

#### Keep Japs Out.

Rep. Marshall Oakley, of Bay City, has introduced a bill which is designed to keep the Japs out of Michigan. The bill proposes to permit Japs and Chinese to lease lands for a period not exceeding three years, but are prohibited from becoming property owners. In case that land shall be left to either a Jap or Chinaman, the bequest will be escheated in the form now prescribed by law, the money turned over to the alien, and the land turned back to the state.

New measures introduced are numerous. In fact bills have begun to flow into the legislative hopper with something resembling their old time frequency. One measure would limit the length of freight trains to 50 cars. It was introduced at the request of trainmen who claim that when a string of cars exceeding 50 in number, of coupled up, that the work becomes more than they can accomplish with safety.

The day in the legislature have taken another fling at their old enemy, the Michigan Bonding company, by introducing a bill, which, if it becomes a law, will wipe out the monopoly that this concern now has in handling saloon bonds. Senator John Damon of Mt. Pleasant, has also introduced an anti-liquor measure. Under the provisions of his bill no liquor could be sold within a five mile radius of any city, town or village, in which is located a state educational institution.

Senator Damon has also introduced a bill compelling lodges, churches, theaters and schools to install ventilating systems.

Senator John Paul has placed himself on record by introducing a bill which would increase the pay of all county supervisors. The bill provides for an increase of from \$2 to \$5 per day while the supervisors are in session.

Rep. Culver has discovered that the bill passed at the last session, under which a commission was created to revise the statutes of the state, and to advise with the legislature concerning laws to this end, will apparently allow the members of the commission to draw \$25 per diem whenever the legislature is in session. He is accordingly introducing a bill cutting off this pay for sessions following the regular session of 1915.

## DUAL PURPOSE CATTLE ON THE ORDINARY FARM

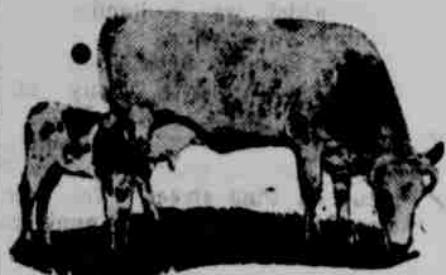
(Prepared by United States department of agriculture.)

THE high prices of meat that have prevailed for years in the United States have led men who hitherto have not thought of the matter to consider the possibility of raising beef cattle. For the man about to engage in this business one of the most important questions is the breed he is to select. Beef cattle are divided into two general classes, the strictly beef breeds and the dual purpose breeds. For the ranchman and the farmer who is in a position to manage a large herd the beef breeds will probably be more profitable. For the small farmer or who can keep only a few cattle and must depend upon those he does keep to produce milk and butter for his family the dual purpose breeds are possibly better suited.

In the United States the principal dual purpose breeds are certain types of the Shorthorn, the Red Polls, the Devons and the Brahman, or "Indian" cattle. The latter, however, are not strictly dual purpose cattle and are of importance only in the extreme south.

### THE POPULAR SHORTHORN.

OF all these the most popular is the dual purpose Shorthorn. In this breed the characteristics of the beef bred Shorthorn have been somewhat modified in order to develop the milking qualities. The cows are longer



MILKING SHORTHORN COW ORPHEA AND CALF OWNED BY THE MINNESOTA EXPERIMENT STATION.

of limb, higher in flank, larger in barrel and thinner in hams than the beef Shorthorns. They possess, however, many of the same qualities which have made the beef Shorthorns the most popular of all strictly beef breeds. In particular they respond readily to good treatment. Their color may be red, red and white, pure white or roan.

The Red Polls are not so well known as the Shorthorns, since they are a younger breed, but they have already become popular in the Mississippi valley and have given excellent results in grading native cattle in the south. As dual purpose cattle, noted agricultural authorities say they are hard to excel.

Many of the cows average over 5,000 pounds of milk a year, usually testing from 3.7 to 4 per cent fat. The steers make good daily gains and lay on flesh evenly. In size, however, they are smaller than the beef breeds.

### GOOD POINTS OF THE DEVONS.

THE Devon is a much older breed than the Red Polls, having been introduced into this country so early that they were popular in New England and parts of Virginia a century ago. At that time the cows were recognized as good milkers, while the steers were used both for work oxen and for beef. The Devon cattle are vigorous, hardy and good rustlers. As



RED POLL BULL LUNA LAD XV, 20722, A PROMINENT WINNER IN 1912, PROPERTY OF A. P. ARR, ELDERIDGE, IA.

work oxen they are fully equal to any breed on account of their endurance, intelligence and their gameness. They are, however, somewhat smaller than the Red Polls, the mature bulls weighing from 1,500 to 2,000 pounds, and the cows from 1,100 to 1,400 pounds. They are solid red in color, and in conformation incline more to the beef type than the dual purpose type. They are slower in growth than the beef breeds and they have, therefore, not become so popular throughout the entire country as their other qualities might lead one to expect. Where the grazing is rather scanty, however, they prove profitable. But on the whole it may be said that the Devon has declined in popularity, together with the general use of oxen as work animals in the United States.

### MERITS OF THE BRAHMAN CATTLE.

BRAHMAN or "Indian cattle" include a number of widely different types, which, however, may all be classed together as dual purpose animals. Their particular merit is their ability to withstand severe drought, heat, insect pests and other adverse conditions. They are, how-

### WAR ON RATS.

FARMERS do not realize the destruction due to the rat plague, but the world is beginning to consider the rat as the carrier of disease as well as agent of destruction.

In the rat we have a twofold enemy—an enemy that destroys property and an enemy that imperils health.

Let us have community cooperation in an anti-rat campaign. It is estimated that the rats destroy property worth \$50,000,000 annually. This seems a small estimate.

Only constant alertness will enable the family to protect itself from the depredations of the rats, but through community cooperation it ought to be possible to rid the country of rats. It is one of those pestilences that bring no compensation whatever. We know some of the benefits of the boll weevil, and some people think that the English sparrow earns its living in checking the growth of the caterpillar, but the rat does no good whatever and is worse than snakes about the henhouse.

### WINTER CARE OF CATTLE.

Needs of Live Stock in Cold Season Demand Attention.

In the sections of the country where rigorous weather prevails during the winter careful attention to the needs of live stock will repay the farmer for his trouble many times over. In too many instances cattle emerge from the winter in dull, listless, emaciated condition, their vitality sapped by living under conditions that are incompatible with the development of milk giving propensities.

In the case of feeding dairy cows no hard and fast rule can be laid down. Each cow will be found to differ from her neighbor in surplus vitality over what is needed to assure normal bodily functions and a good average in milk production. By careful observation it can be readily determined which cows are below standard, and a diet composed more largely of fat forming foods will be found to bring them rapidly out of the decline.

Just before a cow comes in the diet should receive particular attention. Subjecting her to cold drafts or permitting her to drink quantities of ice water should be studiously avoided. Such attention is just as necessary before coming in as after.

Care also should be taken to keep bulls in good condition if successful service is desired from them. The practice of keeping the bull in a narrow, dark, dirty stall at the far end of the barn usually results in the animal becoming dispirited and dull, lacking in the necessary vitality. He should have as good a place in the barn as the best cow, and he should be exercised regularly and kept clean.—National Dairy Magazine.

### An Inoculation Short Cut.

A progressive Alabama farmer has worked out a short cut in field inoculation that saves time and labor. His method has been studied by Field Agent F. D. Stevens of the federal office of farm management, who considers it worthy of a report to headquarters.

"When a new legume is introduced into a locality," Mr. Stevens reports, "it often happens that one is uncertain about the land's being inoculated. Many prefer to use soil, from 600 to 800 pounds to the acre, from a field in which the legume has been grown successfully. Such fields are rarely within easy driving distance, so the matter of haulage becomes an item. Provided 600 pounds were to be used on each acre of a twenty acre field this would mean six tons of soil to be hauled."

"The year before this Alabama farmer wishes to sow the whole field he inoculates a strip through the middle and sows this strip to the legume. The balance of the field may be sown to wheat or oats or other cover crop. If a good stand results he is sure inoculation is present in the soil covered by the strip."

"The following season, when he sows his whole field, he loads his distributor, then drives to the edge of the field and back, where he refills the machine and drives to the upper side, continuing this until the whole field is covered. In locating the strip to be inoculated the capacity of the distributor should be taken into consideration and the position of the strip so determined that the machine can be driven to the boundary and back to the source of supply without reloading."

### Split Pole Fence.

A fence of split poles or of small round saplings not split can be built, which is very serviceable and durable. The fence is built up in the manner shown by the illustration. Each pole is driven into the ground and rested in



the crotch of the crossed uprights. All are then nailed, and the nails should be clinched wherever they reach through the uprights.

It is best to make a good selection of the poles to be used. They should be of uniform length, and the more regular and alike in size they are the better will be the fence.—Wisconsin Agriculturist.

### A Boy's Way.



Jack (aged five)—Mamma, every time I squeeze my finger it hurts. Mamma—Then don't squeeze it, dear. Jack—But if I don't squeeze it how shall I know whether it hurts or not?—Chico go News.

### Saw Him First.



Deftouch—Say, the chief has promised me a raise next week. Wisenheimer—Sorry, old man, but I can't spare you a cent today.—Boston Traveler.

### A Chance For Occupation.



"I believe de recall 'ud help to reform me."

"What difference would it make to you?"

"Well, I tink I'd quit dis roving life an' settle down an' try to git back at some o' de judges dat keeps sendin' me up."—San Francisco Chronicle.

### Safety First.



The Customer—Are you quite sure these cakes are perfectly sanitary?

The Bakery Man—We take every precaution, ma'am. We don't even allow the lady fingers to touch 'em.—New York Globe.

### Analyzed.



Mother—But what are his antecedents? Has he come up from nothing or has he come down from something? Mabel—I really don't know. He has the money of the former and the manners of the latter.—Boston Globe.

### Ideal Tour.



Mazie—Artie, where are we going on our honeymoon?

Artie—Around the world, darling. They're going to give it in seven reels at the ever picture show.—Washington Star.

STATE OF MICHIGAN, County of Gratiot: In the Circuit Court for the County of Gratiot: In Chancery.

William B. Harris and Sarah M. Snook, Complainants, vs. Edward G. Bement, and Leroy B. Harris, or his unknown heirs, legatees, devisees or assigns, Defendants.

At a regular session of said court held in the Court House, in the Village of Ithaca, in said county, on the 9th day of January, A. D. 1915:

Present, The Hon. Kelly S. Searl, Circuit Judge.

William B. Harris and Sarah M. Snook, the above-named Complainants, having filed in said cause a Bill of Complaint against the above named and unnamed Defendants, and which said suit is brought to quiet and remove clouds from the title to lands described as the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section twenty-three and the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section twenty-six, all in township twelve north of range two west, Michigan, and the said Bill having been duly verified by said Complainants, and

It satisfactorily appearing to the court from said verified Bill of Complaint and from affidavits on file in said cause that the said Edward G. Bement does not reside in the state of Michigan, but that he does reside in the city of Windsor, in the Dominion of Canada;

And it further appearing to the satisfaction of the court that diligent search and inquiry have been made to ascertain the present residence and whereabouts of the above named Defendant, Leroy B. Harris, or his unknown heirs, legatees, devisees or assigns, and it is not known and cannot be ascertained whether the said Leroy B. Harris is living or dead, or where he may reside, if living, or whether the apparent title, interest, claim or possible right in or to said lands has been by him assigned to any person or persons, or, if dead, whether he has personal representatives or heirs living, or where they or some of them may reside, if living, or whether such apparent title, interest, claim or possible right has been disposed of by will, or who were his heirs, legatees, devisees or assigns.

Therefore, on motion of O. G. Tuttle, solicitor for said Complainants, it is ordered that the above named Edward G. Bement, and Leroy B. Harris, or his unknown heirs, legatees, devisees or assigns, cause their appearance to be entered in this cause on or before the 10th day of June A. D. 1915, and in case of his or their appearance that he or they cause his or their answer or answers to Complainants' Bill of Complaint to be filed in this cause and a copy or copies thereof to be served on Complainants' solicitor within twenty days after service upon him or them of a copy of said Bill of Complaint and notice of this order, and in default thereof said Bill of Complaint be taken as confessed by said Defendants or so many of them as shall be in default.

And it is further ordered that within twenty days after the date of this order the Complainants cause a copy thereof to be published in the Alma Record, a newspaper printed, published and circulating in said county, and that such publication be continued therein at least once in each week for six successive weeks, or that a copy of this order be personally served on each of said Defendants at least twenty days before the time prescribed herein for their appearance.

Countersigned, KELLY S. SEARL, Circuit Judge.

B. L. CASE, Register in Chancery.

This suit is brought to quiet and remove clouds from the title to lands described in said Bill of Complaint as follows:

The southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section twenty-three and northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section twenty-six, all in township twelve north of range two west, Michigan.

O. G. TUTTLE, Solicitor for Complainants, Business Address, Ithaca, Michigan. 187017

ESTATE OF FANNIE SMITH. Order Appointing Time for Hearing Claims.

STATE OF MICHIGAN—The Probate Court for the County of Gratiot:

At a session of said court, held at the Probate office in the village of Ithaca in said county, on the 9th day of January, 1915.

Present, J. Lee Potts, Judge.

In the matter of the estate of Fannie Smith, deceased.

The above estate having been admitted to probate and Thomas Smith, of Alma, Michigan, appointed administrator thereof.

It is ordered that four months from this date be allowed for creditors to present their claims against said estate and that such claims will be heard by said court on Monday, the 10th day of May, next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon.

It is further ordered, that public notice thereof be given by publication of this order for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in the Alma Record, a newspaper printed and circulating in said county.

J. LEE POTTS, Judge of Probate.

BELLE JENNE, Clerk of Probate. 187014

Notice of Hearing Annual Account—ESTATE OF AMMI W. WRIGHT.

STATE OF MICHIGAN, County of Gratiot, ss.

annual account of the executors of the estate of Ammi W. Wright, deceased, of Gratiot County, Michigan, will be allowed by me at the Probate Office, in the Village of Ithaca, in said County, on the twenty-ninth (29th) day of January next, at ten (10) o'clock a. m. of said day.

Dated, Ithaca, December 30th, A. D. 1914.

J. LEE POTTS, Judge of Probate. 186914

STATE OF MICHIGAN, County of Gratiot. In the Circuit Court for the County of Gratiot, in Chancery. Edna Drexler, Complainant, vs. Joseph H. Drexler, Defendant.

At a regular session of said court held in the Court House, in the village of Ithaca, in said County, on the 26th day of December, A. D. 1914:

Present—The Hon. Kelly S. Searl, Circuit Judge.

In this cause it appearing by affidavit on file that the defendant, Joseph H. Drexler, is not a resident of this state, but is a resident of Hill City in the State of Minnesota;

On motion of O. G. Tuttle, solicitor for Complainant, it is ordered that the appearance of said defendant, Joseph H. Drexler, be entered in this cause within four months from the date of this order and that in case of his appearance that he cause his answer to the Bill of Complaint to be filed and a copy thereof served upon the solicitor for complainant within fifteen days after service on him or his solicitor of a copy of said Bill and in default thereof said Bill be taken as confessed by said defendant, Joseph H. Drexler.

And it is further ordered that the Complainant cause a copy of this order to be published in the Alma Record, a newspaper published, printed and circulating in said County, and that such publication be commenced within twenty days from the date of this order, and that publication be continued therein once in each week for six successive weeks, or that the said Complainant cause a copy of this order to be personally served on said Defendant, Joseph H. Drexler, at least twenty days before the time above prescribed for his appearance.

KELLY S. SEARL, Circuit Judge.

Countersigned: R. E. HUGHES, Register in Chancery.

O. G. TUTTLE, Solicitor for Complainant. Business Address, Ithaca, Michigan. 1875

## BUSINESS CARDS

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Dr. F. C. Thornburgh

Office Hours—1 to 4:30 p. m., 7 to 8 p. m.

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## FIRE INSURANCE

ROWLAND & JOHNSON:

BETHEL CUMMINGS, Clerk

Office Over Chick's Shoe Store

F. H. ROWLAND Real Estate D. L. JOHNSON Attorney

STATE OF MICHIGAN—The Probate Court for the County of Gratiot.

At a session of said court, held at the Probate office in the village of Ithaca in said county, on the 23rd day of December, 1914.

Present, J. Lee Potts, Judge.